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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/581,413	06/23/2006	Kenya Shitara	00005.001295	1999

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EXAMINER	
WEN, SHARON X	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
1644	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/581,413	SHITARA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sharon Wen	1644	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *1* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 June 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-26* are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendments to the claims filed on 06/02/2006 have been entered.

Claims 2 has been canceled.

Claims 1 and 3-26 are pending and currently under restriction requirement.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1, 3-4 and 7-26 drawn to a medicament and a kit comprising a combination of recombinant antibody which specifically binds to human CCR4 and at least one pharmaceutically active agent.

Group II, claim(s) 5-6, drawn to a process of treating tumor comprising administering the medicament.

The inventions listed as Groups I-II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The inventions of Groups I-II were found to have no special technical feature that defined the contribution over the prior art of Wu et al. (US Patent 6,488,930).

Wu et al. teach a medicament comprising a recombinant anti-CCR4 antibody and a pharmaceutically active agent (see entire document, particularly columns 23-24).

Since Applicant's inventions do not contribute a special technical feature when viewed over the prior art they do not have a single general inventive concept and so lack unity of invention.

Species Election

3. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

I. If any one of Groups I-II is elected, Applicant is required to elect a specific extracellular region to which the anti-CCR4 antibody binds (e.g. positions 1 to 39 **OR** 98-112 **OR** 176 to 206 **OR** 271 to 284 of amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 as recited in claim 9).

II. In addition, if any one of Group I-II is elected, Applicant is required to elect one specific anti-CCR4 antibody and provide the following information with respect to the elected species of the anti-CCR4 antibody:

a) SEQ ID NO of the heavy chain variable region (e.g SEQ ID NO: 16 as recited in claim 21),

b) SEQ ID NO of the light chain variable region (e.g. SEQ ID NO:18 as recited in claim 21),

c) SEQ ID NOs of CDR1, CDR 2, and CDR3 of the heavy chain variable region (e.g. SEQ ID NOs: 5, 6 and 7 as recited in claims 17 and 20),

e) SEQ ID NOs of CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 of the light chain variable region (e.g. SEQ ID NOs: 8, 9 and 10 as recited in claims 17 and 20), **AND**

f) one specific hybridoma that produces the antibody (e.g. KM 2160 FERM BP-10090 as recited in claim 14).

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: see Wu et al.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species (e.g. amino acid positions 1-39 represented by SEQ ID NO:1 and the specific antibody binding to the region) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

III. Furthermore, if any one of Groups I-II is elected, Applicant is required to elect a specific medicament *without* or *with* a pharmaceutically active agent.

If a medicament *with* a pharmaceutically active agent is elected, Applicant is also required to elect a species and an ultimate species of the pharmaceutically active agent recited in claims 3-4 and 22-26 (e.g. species: cytokine, ultimate species: IL-2).

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: see Wu et al.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species (e.g. a medicament *with* a pharmaceutically active agent wherein the agent being a cytokine, specifically IL-2) for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

4. Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

5. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed to a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b).

Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder**. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon Wen whose telephone number is (571) 270-3064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:30AM-6:00PM, ALT. Friday, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on (571)272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sharon Wen, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
July 9, 2007

PHILLIP GAMBEL, PH.D JD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TC 1600
7/10/07